

HOUSE RESOLUTION 48
By Scroggs

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Chaplain D. Dewayne
Davenport, Ph.D. of Ridgely and Nashville.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Chaplain D. Dewayne Davenport, Ph.D., whose bountiful life of purpose and commitment was dedicated to serving his God, his family and his community; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Chaplain Davenport earned the respect and admiration of his peers and the community, always giving fully of himself and observing the great and time-honored spirit of Tennessee volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, Chaplain Davenport served with dedication, compassion, and honor as the Head Chaplain for the State of Tennessee at the Northwest Correction Center in Tiptonville; and

WHEREAS, a native of Chattanooga, Chaplain Davenport was the son of Colleen Womack Davenport and the late Clark H. Davenport; and

WHEREAS, it is written in scripture to "study to show thyself approved; (2 Tim. 2:15)" Chaplain Davenport followed this sage advice and was very successful in his college matriculation. He earned his Associate of Arts degree at Freed-Hardeman University, Henderson, Tennessee; Bachelor of Arts degree at Harding University, Searcy, Arkansas; Master of Education and Master of Arts, degrees at Harding Graduate School, Memphis, Tennessee; Master of Divinity, Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pennsylvania; Master of Science degree (Cross-Cultural Communication Major) at North Texas State University, Denton, Texas; and Doctor of Ministry degree at Luther Rice Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia; and

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WHEREAS, Chaplain Davenport's first love was evangelistic work and the Bible, and he was a very gifted and vibrant public speaker and teacher. It should be noted that he preached his first sermon at the early age of seventeen; and

WHEREAS, answering God's call to "Go and teach," Chaplain Davenport was an evangelist and teacher in many states and several foreign countries. He served as one of the first resident missionaries for the Churches of Christ in Ghana, West Africa and Tanzania, East Africa; and

WHEREAS, Chaplain Davenport was an active and vital part of the community and his profession, participating in numerous organizations and worthy causes; and

WHEREAS, Chaplain Davenport was an active and devout member of the Temperance Hall Church of Christ, in Liberty, DeKalb County, for 49 years. He also served astutely as the evangelist for the church; and

WHEREAS, the legacy Chaplain Davenport leaves behind will be remembered and treasured by friends and associates for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, Chaplain Davenport enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of 40 years, Jane Russell Davenport; was the proud parent of Mary Davenport Martin and Russell Dewayne Davenport; and grandfather of Zachary and Myrla Jane Clayton and Lily and Brendan Davenport; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor the memory of Chaplain D. Dewayne Davenport, Ph.D., remembering with admiration his exemplary character and many selfless contributions to his church, his community, and the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Chaplain D. Dewayne Davenport.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.